

Descriptions of a new genus and a new species of the Acontiinae (Noctuidae) from Japan

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Abstract A new genus of the Acontiinae, *Manoblemma* gen. n., is erected for the reception of a new species, *M. cryptica* sp. n. from Japan. This genus is placed between *Acidaliodes* Hampson and *Araeopteron* Hampson from the point of view of the forewing venation.

Key words Acontiinae, *Manoblemma* gen. n., *Manoblemma cryptica* sp. n., Japan, taxonomy.

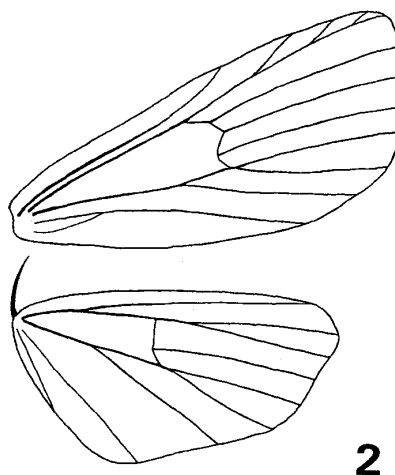
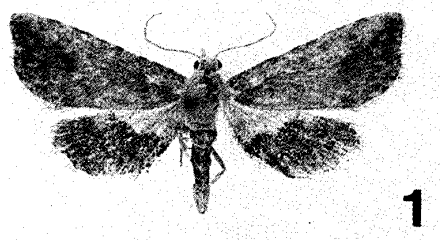
Several specimens of a hitherto unknown acontiine were collected in Mie Pref., the mainland of Japan, by Mr T. Mano, Miwa-cho. This species is very small with narrow wings like *Araeopteron*, but the wing shape and venation are different in some points, and there is no genus accepting this species under Hampson's (1910) system. Below I describe it as new to science under a new genus for the reception of this new species.

Manoblemma gen. n.

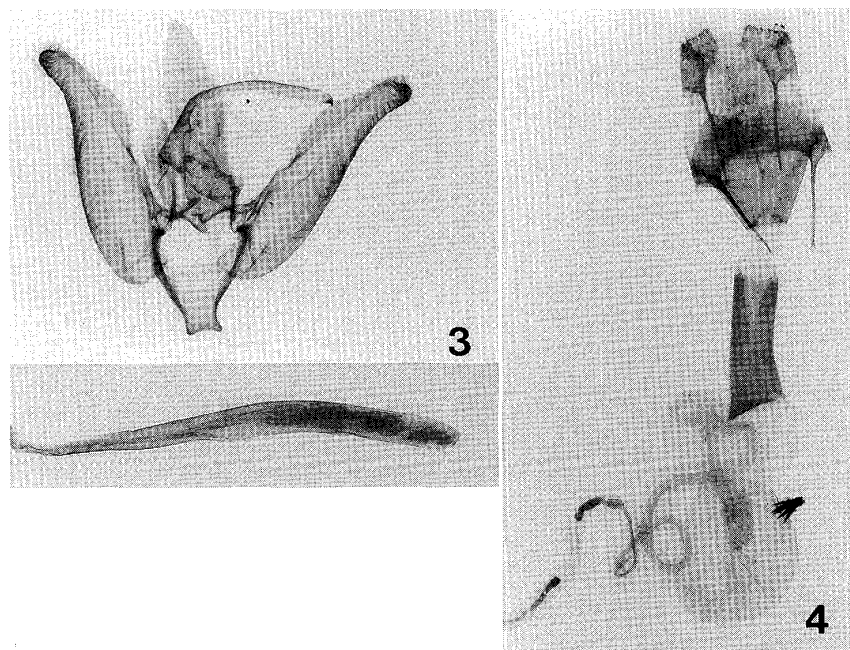
Type species. *Manoblemma cryptica* sp. n.

Gender. Feminine.

Palpus with the 3rd segment short, not reaching the level of the vertex; antenna finely ciliate in male, simple in female. Forewing (Fig. 2) narrow, with termen slightly incurved between veins 7 (R_5) and 5 (M_2); veins 8 (R_4), 9 (R_3), 10 (R_2) and 11 (R_1) stalked, vein 7 (R_5) from upper angle of cell, separating from the stalk of veins 8–11; vein 5 (M_2) from lower one-third of cross-vein, not close to vein 4 (M_3). Hindwing (Fig. 2) also narrow, termen a little excurved between veins 5 (M_2) and 2 (CuA_1); vein 8 ($Sc+R_1$) anastomosing with the cell in the basal one-third, veins 7 (R_s) and 6 (M_1) short stalked; vein 5 (M_2) from lower one-third of cross-vein, fully separating from vein 4 (M_3), which is a little stalked with vein 3 (CuA_1).



Figs 1–2. *Manoblemma cryptica* gen. & sp. n. 1. Holotype ♂, Japan, Mie Pref. 2. Venation.



Figs 3-4. Male and female genitalia of *Manoblemma cryptica* gen. & sp. n. 3. Male. 4. Female.

Male genitalia (Fig. 3). Uncus very long, tegumen not so high; valva simple, its costa gently raised near the middle and its tip roundish; saccus shallowly concave at bottom. Aedeagus very long, slender and nearly straight, vesica without cornutus.

Female genitalia (Fig. 4). Papilla analis moderate, weakly sclerotized; anterior and posterior apophyses moderate in length; ostium bursae large, caudally dilated with a deep median cleft; ductus bursae lamellate, somewhat twisted in anterior part; cervix bursae weak with a thick and coiled ductus; corpus bursae roundish with an anchor-like specialized signum.

Among some small acontiines, this new genus has forewing venation similar to *Haematosticta* Hampson, 1896, *Acidaliodes* Hampson, 1910 and *Hyriodes* Hampson, 1910 in the running pattern of the radial veins, that is, veins 11 (R_1) to 8 (R_4) are stalked and vein 7 (R_5) from the upper angle of the cell. But the new genus is easily separated from *Hyriodes* by the normal shape of the hindwing, and from other two by the forewing vein 5 (M_2) not being close to vein 4 (M_3) at the base. *Araeopteron* Hampson, 1893 is also somewhat similar in facies, but in this genus all the radial veins of the forewing are stalked, viz. vein 7 is also stalked with veins 8-11. In the male genitalia, there is no distinct feature in *Manoblemma* even when compared with *Araeopteron* (e. g. Inoue, 1965) except for the extremely elongated aedeagus.

Etymology. *Mano*-, dedicated to Mr T. Mano, and *blemma*, a look, a glance, in Greek.

Manoblemma cryptica sp. n. (Fig. 1)

♂ ♀. Length of forewing 5.5-6 mm (expanse 11.5-12 mm). Head and thorax pale whitish ocher, abdomen grayish brown with basal segments banded with pale ocher. Forewing pale grayish ocher and suffused with gray in outer area, with obscure maculation. Transverse lines obscure and diffuse, dark grayish spots on costa at subbase, at the starting point of the expected antemedial line and before middle; a large, ill-defined triangle dark gray shade

below apex to vein 1 in outer area, with a dark diffuse mark at inner corner between veins 6 and 4; a diffuse and pale grayish subterminal line traceable, minutely waved, and some black dots beyond it below apex to vein 5; termen with a row of diffuse brown dots; cilia pale ocher. Hindwing dark gray, with basal one-fourth pale ocher with some orange tint, and its boundary waved and somewhat diffuse with darker suffusion towards inner margin; outer and subterminal lines very diffuse, slightly darker than ground color, waved, cilia pale ocher.

Male and female genitalia as for the genus.

Holotype. ♂, Japan, Mie Pref., Ueno, Hijiki, 250 m, 27. vi. 1997, T. Mano. leg. Paratypes. 1 ♂ 2 ♀, same data as holotype. Type specimens now in my collection will be deposited in the Natural History Museum, London, in future.

Remarks. This species is easily distinguished from other Japanese small acontiines, especially the members of *Araeopteron*, by the basal orange yellow coloration of the hindwing continuing to the basal segments of the abdomen.

The type locality, Mie Pref., Ueno, is located in old Iga Han, which in the Edo period was famous for producing the Ninjas, who were secret agents possessing highly developed cryptic skills. It is an unremarkable hilly town with the ordinary secondary vegetation, and has no unique or characteristic flora or fauna. The present new species is, thus, considered to be distributed more widely in Japan, even though local.

Acknowledgments

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References

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摘 要

日本産コヤガの新属新種 (吉本 浩)

イガコヤガ (新称) *Manoblemma cryptica* gen. & sp. n. を三重県上野市産の 2 ♂ 2 ♀ に基づいて記載した。本新属はアヤホソコヤガ属 *Araeopteron* Hampson, 1893 に似るが、前翅の径脈は R_1 から R_4 ままでが共通の柄をもち、 R_5 が中室の上から発する点で区別できる。Hampson (1910) によれば、前翅径脈が本種と同様の走行をするものに *Haematosticta* Hampson, 1896, *Acidaliodes* Hampson, 1910 及び *Hyriodes* Hampson, 1910 があるが、後翅が異形の *Hyriodes* との比較は省くとして、本属では前翅 M_2 が M_3 から離れて発する点で区別される。私の調べた標本は上記上野市比自岐のものだけだが、採集者の間野隆裕氏によれば、採集地は極普通の里山で、植生から見ても特殊な点は見られないという。恐らく他にも産地があると思われるが、かなり局地的に分布しているのかも知れない。

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